

January 9, 1975

Dr. Martin Kaplan  
World Health Organization  
1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland

Dear Martin,

I have only just gotten your letter dated December 29th. The mails are getting just terrible!

I have to hope and assume that the report which I mailed out to you on December 23rd will have crossed in the mails. If I do not get an acknowledgment within a couple of days, I will send on another copy.

About my attendance at the ACMR, let me put in writing what I had discussed before.

On the assumption that this next year will be an occasion to try to get the ACMR more deeply involved in the scrutiny of concrete programs of the various divisions, I agree that it would be irresponsible of me to decline to continue service just at the time that my proposals were being constructively acted upon. So, within that framework, I would be happy to accept an appointment for an additional year, and will assume that the ACMR members will be receiving the appropriate materials for advance study and deliberation prior to the actual meeting.

I indeed welcome the opportunity to be of service and am pleased that the receptivity that these ideas for a more meaningful involvement of ACMR have in fact received at WHO headquarters.

Yes, I concur that it would be a good idea to have the ACMR sub-committee on DNA recombination to meet just prior to the ACMR meeting in June.

Sincerely yours,

Joshua Lederberg  
Professor of Genetics

JL/rr

P.S. That piece that was composed for the ACMR and which was published in ERISM continuous to be a useful document. Stetten called me just yesterday to get copies of it for Fredrickson and his National Advisory Health Council which will be taking the final actions with respect to U.S.-NIH policy in this field.

You may be interested in this informational copy of a communication I just received from NIH which illustrates how they are now proceeding in practice.